GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:151
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2016
Fare in Special Trains
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh;Puttaraju Shri C.S.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has recently assessed the increase in the number of rail passengers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether special trains are being arranged to cater to increase in passenger load and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether special fare is being charged from the passengers traveling in the said trains and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government is reviewing the increase in fare; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken so far in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 151 BY SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE AND SHRI C.S. PUTTA RAJU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.05.2016 REGARDING FARE IN SPECIAL TRAINS

(a) Yes, Madam. As per Budget Estimates 2016-17, there is an increase in the number of originating passengers from 8152 million (provisional) in the year 2015-16 to 8182 million in the year 2016-17, showing an increase of 0.37%.
(b) Yes, Madam. Special trains are run and extra coaches are attached for clearance of extra passenger traffic during peak seasons, festivals, and special events, keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources. This is an ongoing process on Indian Railways.
(c) The following type of Special train services are run including Suvidha trains and special trains on special charges over Indian Railways:-
(1) Special trains on normal fare structure (equivalent to regular time tabled trains) under the following circumstances:-
(i) Unreserved special train for all distances including
Jansadharan Express.
(ii) To clear passengers due to hold up of traffic on account of
incidents like accidents, floods, breaches, line blocks, cancellation of trains etc.
(2) Special trains on special charges are run based on pattern of demand. In addition to fare equivalent to regular Time Tabled trains, special charges are also levied at the rate of 10% of basic fare for second class (reserved) and 30% of basic fare for all other classes subject to minimum and maximum charges. However, unreserved class of Special trains on special charges is charged at par with second class superfast Mail/Express fares.

(3) Suvidha Trains:-With effect from 01.07.2015, Suvidha trains are introduced for meeting peaks in demand as may arise from time to time during summer, winter, festivals and on other occasions. Minimum fare of Suvidha trains is equal to Tatkal fare applicable for the class of accommodation. This is for initial 20% of the available berths. Thereafter, the fare is increased for subsequent slabs of 20% of seats/berths booked subject to maximum of three times of the Tatkal fare. Other applicable supplementary charges like reservation charge, superfast charge, service tax etc., as applicable are levied separately. However, unreserved class of Suvidha trains is charged at par with the second class superfast Mail/Express fares.
Special trains on special charges and Suvidha trains are run as additional services over and above the regular time-tabled trains during peak seasons to meet surge in demand. They do not displace the regular services but complement them by providing additional facility for travel at short notice/lesser advance reservation period by paying higher fares. In view of the subsidized fare structure for the regular time tabled trains and extra efforts being made by Railways for running of such special trains, the fares of Suvidha trains & Special trains on special charges have been kept higher.

(d) At present there is no such proposal.
(e) Does not arise.
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